

By Stefanos Evripidou

<http://www.cyprus-mail.com/cyprus/international-groups-condemn-halting-christmas-liturgy/20110105>

According to the Cyprus News Agency, the **US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)**, Archbishop Demetrios and the Coordinated Effort of Hellenes also voiced their concern regarding the interruption of Christmas mass by the occupation regime.

“It is wrong and a symbol of religious intolerance and repressive policies of the Turkish Cypriot authorities supported by Turkey’s occupation troops to require such a small church community to seek permission to hold Christmas Liturgy,” said Leonard Leo, USCIRF chair.